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Recent Gifts

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RECENT GIFTS

From the estate of Dr. Charles J. Mendelsohn, a graduate of the College in 1900, has come a collection of more than three hundred books and pamphlets on cryptography. During the World War Dr. Mendelsohn served in the office of the Chief Signal Officer of the United States, where he rendered valuable service in decoding enemy codes and ciphers, a field in which he had acquired expert knowledge. It was known to be his wish that the collection which he had built up on this subject, which includes many rare and valuable works, should come to the University after his death, and in accordance with this desire it has been presented by his mother, Mrs. Esther Mendelsohn, of Wilmington, N. C.

From Dr. John A. Stevenson has come a gift of 158 books on education, and from Col. Edwin M. Chance a gift of 235 books and periodicals on chemistry and engineering.

From the estate of Mr. J. Rodman Paul, in accordance with his desire, we have received approximately three thousand volumes, which include not only an extensive collection of works relating to English and American history and biography, but a very valuable collection of documentary sources on the French Revolution and the general history of France.

From Mr. Henry N. Paul has come a collection of rare volumes for the Furness Library, further mention of which will be made in the next issue of the *Chronicle*.

From Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, in connection with the Bicentennial, we received a letter, written in 1791 by Thomas Jefferson, then Secretary of State, conveying to the National Assembly of France the appreciation of President Washington

and the Congress for the tribute paid by France to the memory of Benjamin Franklin; also a handsomely bound collection of eulogies printed after Franklin's death, and other papers relating to Franklin. Among these is a letter written by Louis XVI, expressing his personal tribute. From the Jefferson letter to the President of the National Assembly we print the following:

"That the loss of such a citizen should be lamented by us, among whom he lived, whom he so long & eminently served, & who feel their country advanced & honoured by his birth, life, & labors, was to be expected. but it remained for the National assembly of France to set the first example of the Representative of one nation, doing homage by a public act to the private citizen of another, and, by withdrawing arbitrary lines of separation, to reduce into one fraternity the good & the great, wherever they have lived or died.

"That these separations may disappear between us in all times & circumstances, & that the union of sentiment, which mingles our sorrows on this occasion, may continue long to cement the friendship & the interests of our two nations, is our constant prayer. with no one is it more sincere than with him, who, in being charged with the honour of conveying a public sentiment, is permitted that of expressing the homage of profound respect & veneration, with which he is, Sir, your most obedt. & most hble servt."

